

Vecinos,

Espero que todos ustedes estén bien. I hope you are enjoying a good summer. I pray the children are safe and enjoying a break from their studies in school. As I write this letter this morning, I am enjoying a cool breeze coming through the living room window and feeling God knew we needed a little break from the heat of the day.

I hope you will find this newsletter a benefit to information you will need. We made a special point of putting in information regarding the property tax-break for seniors.

I want to invite you to a very special event where I want to hear what your thoughts are on Proposition 13. Our district has a lot of concern about seniors being able to pay their property tax. As you will see in the article here, the way things are today, most seniors over 65 years of age in our district **do not have to pay any** city property taxes. How would Proposition 13 change things? Would it be better? Would it make things harder on the younger property owners?

**LET'S TALK ABOUT THESE THINGS TOGETHER AT A TOWN HALL MEETING**

***Development & Business Service Center***

Wednesday, July 21 at 7 p.m. 1901 South Alamo St., Boardroom

Subject: Proposition 13

Our City Attorney and a representative from Bexar Appraisal will be present with us to answer questions. I want to hear what you think. Hope to see you there!

Con mucho carino,



John Ross, an 8th grade student of Councilwoman Radle delivers the invocation to begin the City Council meeting on May 13, 2004.



In a proclamation presented to Latinas for a Cure and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the City Council declared Sunday, May 2, as "Pink Ribbon Sunday," a day designated to encourage women to fight breast cancer through better breast health. Councilwoman Radle was this year's honorary chairperson.

## ***Seniors: Are You Interested in Paying Lower Taxes?***

Discounts can be obtained by qualifying for exemptions. Exemptions are discounts awarded to property owners...

- If you own the home you occupy and are 65, or going to be 65, during the year you are eligible. The same year, you may be eligible for a tax ceiling on school district taxes and city and county discounts
- If you are a surviving spouse, 55 or older, of a deceased spouse who was 65 or older and already had an exemption at the time of death, you may be able to continue your school tax ceiling and city and county discounts
- If you are 65 or older and already have an exemption, but have purchased a new home and want to transfer your exemption, you may be able to continue the ceiling on your school taxes and a percentage of city and county discounts
- And more!!

To apply for any of these exemptions, please call the Bexar Appraisal District at 224-2432, or visit their offices at 411 N. Frio. These services are FREE OF CHARGE.

## District 5 Business Summit



From L-R, Daniel Lopez, Ed Somers, Ramiro Cavazos and Luis Vasquez.

High attendance at the first-ever District 5 Business Summit on March 30 at Our Lady of the Lake University proved that there has been a great need for bringing together business owners to share ideas

and concerns, and to find ways to help

strengthen business opportunities in the district.

One of the main goals of the Summit was to form a Business Sub-Committee to discuss organizing a conference to address specific opportunities to improve, expand, and reach business goals. **Daniel Lopez** agreed to chair the Sub-Committee which has now met three times.

After conversations about the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for businesses, the group has identified four areas of interest: Business Development and Training, Public Sector Business Development, District 5 Pachangas, and a Business Policy Focus.

The Sub-Committee has also outlined their support for a Business Summit, open to all, that would allow for sharing infor-

mation on resources currently available and other information gathered by city staff and Councilwoman Radle's office.

The Sub-committee has begun planning the District 5 Business Summit, so keep a look out for more detailed information regarding time and place!



Attendees of the Business Summit were treated to delicious food from Tommy's Restaurant.

## Project Green Shade

### TREE PROJECT TAKES A SUMMER BREAK

Standing on the blazing hot parking lot of St. Philip of Jesus Catholic Church, the site of the latest tree distribution location for Project Green Shade, it was easy to understand one of the many benefits of trees—cool shade—even from those brand new trees waiting to be picked up by happy owners. As we face the heat of the summer season, Project Green Shade will be taking a break during July and August.

For those not familiar with the program, Project Green Shade is a tree planting program developed by CPS of San Antonio designed to focus on conserving energy for homeowners who live in District 5. With the help of your district office, CPS has committed to provide the district with 500 trees along with training and planting assistance. So far the response from District 5 constituents has been tremendously positive.

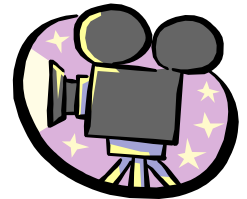
The latest plantings on June 5 were coordinated with the Lone Star, Field of the Missions, Presa Real, and Harris neighborhood associations. The project will resume in late August with training at the Westside YMCA. This planting cluster will include the Memorial Heights, Loma Vista, Loma Park, Las Palmas, and Villa de San Antonio neighborhood associations.

For more information, please call Cecilia Rodriguez at our City Hall office (207-7085), or Jennifer Cantu at our District office (212-2275).



At a training session that took place at the Palm Heights Community Center, a horticulturalist demonstrated the best way to place mulch around a new tree.

## VIVA DISTRICT 5!



Hopefully by now you have seen "Viva District 5!"

We have taped four shows so far and Councilwoman Radle has interviewed some very talented and gifted people that either work or reside in our beautiful district.

The show may be viewed on channel 21 on cable television. The program airs Monday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m., and Friday evenings at 8:30 p.m.

For further information regarding our show, or to share ideas for future shows, call 207-7043.

## Adopt-A-Spot Litter Control

Adopt-A-Spot is a program sponsored by Keep San Antonio Beautiful offering individuals, groups, businesses and schools the opportunity to demonstrate their desire for a clean community by selecting a spot to clean and beautify.

If you or your neighborhood is interested in starting this program in your area, please contact the Keep San Antonio Beautiful Office at (210) 207-6460. They will provide you with flyers and an Adopt-A-Spot Agreement.





## OUR PART OF TOWN TALENT SHOW

The San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department and Time Warner Cable are gearing up for another Our Part of Town talent show competition. Amateur performers from across the city are invited to strut their best stuff on stage, vying for Saving Bonds and the excitement of knowing that the winning performances will be televised on TVSA Channel 21. In the past, talents have ranged from piano solos to vocalists singing ranchera music to dance numbers. Age categories are 12 and under; 13-19; and 20 and over. For more information, call 207-3134.

### Auditions for District 5

**Sat., Aug. 21, 10am-12noon, Palm Heights Community Ctr.**

### Talent Show Date

**Mon., Aug. 30, 7pm, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Ctr.**

## Veteran's Corner

If you are a veteran and have questions concerning benefits, investments, or what you are entitled to receive as a retired or disabled veteran, please do not hesitate to call our office. Call our field office at 212-2275



## City of San Antonio Customer Service



### Las Palmas Customer Service Center

Las Palmas Shopping Center  
803 Castroville Road, Suite 132  
Mon-Fri (8 am-6 pm) Sat (10 am--6 pm)  
Program Mgr: Joe Michael Gonzales  
Main Phone: (210) 207-6545  
Fax (210) 436-7273

### South Park Customer Service Center

South Park Mall  
2310 S.W. Military Dr  
Mon-Sat (10am-7pm)  
Program Mgr: Rose Galvez  
Main Phone: (210) 922-5568

### Services Include:

Building Inspection  
Garage Sale Permits  
Code Compliance  
Community Initiatives  
Social Service Programs  
Health Issues  
Municipal Courts  
Parks and Recreation  
Public Works  
Police Reports  
VIA

Need help with stray animals, potholes, street signs, trash collection or general city info...



# CALL 311

City of San Antonio Home Page  
<http://www.sanantonio.gov>

## Summer Fun & Learning

(For Kids and Adults)

### COMMUNITY CENTERS

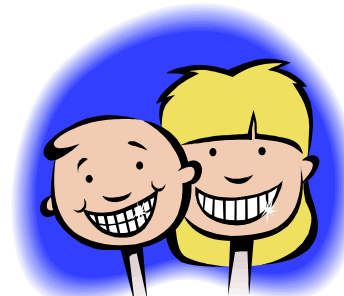
Arts and crafts, sports and games.  
June 7-July 30. Call for hours of operation.

- NORMOYLE, 700 Culberson, 924-0770
- PALM HEIGHTS CENTER, 1201 W. Malone, 922-1034
- SAN JUAN BRADY GARDENS CENTER, 2307 S. Calaveras, 225-5410
- SOUTH SAN CENTER, 2031 Quintana, 927-1640
- TOBIN, 1900 W. Martin, 225-0941

### SWIMMING POOLS

Admittance to all City pools (except the Natatorium) are FREE!! Tues.-Sun., 1-7pm, closed Mon.

- CASSIANO, 1440 S. Zarzamora in Cassiano Park, 434-7482
- ELMENDORF, 4400 W. Commerce, 434-7380
- KENNEDY, 3299 S.W. 28th St., 436-7009
- NORMOYLE, 700 Culberson and Normoyle Park, 923-2442
- ROOSEVELT, 500 Lonestar Blvd. & Roosevelt, 532-6091
- NATATORIUM, Indoor swimming, 1430 W. Durango, 226-8541.



Seniors swim free Mon.-Fri., 10-11am. Adult Lap Swim, Mon.-Sat., 11am-12noon, \$1.50. General Public Mon.-Sat., 12noon-6:45pm, Adults 17 & up \$1.50, Children 0-16 .50¢.

### • GUADALUPE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER CAMPS,

Too many camps to list. Some scholarships available for residents of 78207. Call 271-3151, [www.guadalupeculturalarts.org](http://www.guadalupeculturalarts.org).

• **PUBLIC LIBRARIES**, Computer classes, events, exhibits, story-times, on and on, [www.sanantonio.gov/library/](http://www.sanantonio.gov/library/).

• **CENTRALLIBRARY**, 600 Soledad, 207-2500

• **LAS PALMAS LIBRARY**, 515 Castroville Rd., 434-6394

# BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

We would like to begin introducing some of the individuals sitting on various boards and commissions of the City of San Antonio representing District 5. There are more to come in the next issue! Thank you to all of the District 5 constituents who have committed their time and energy to serving on boards and commissions. Through your commitment, the concerns of all District 5 residents are represented in ways that may not otherwise be expressed.



**JOE VILLARREAL**  
Arts & Cultural Advisory  
Committee



**JIM GREENFIELD**  
Brooks Development  
Authority Board



**JESSICA M. ALONSO**  
San Antonio Youth  
Commission



**ALFRED P. ROCHA**  
Keep S. A. Beautiful



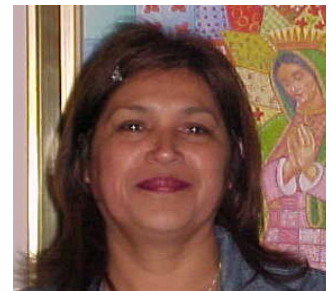
**OSCAR SAN MIGUEL**  
Historic & Design  
Committee



**RICHARD E. GONZALES**  
Veterans' Affairs,  
City Commission



**DANIEL A. LOPEZ**  
South Texas Business  
Fund



**DIANA LEDESMA**  
Council Advisory  
Representing AVANCE



**ORALIA SALAME**  
Advisory Brd. of Health of  
S. A. Metropolitan Health  
District, Small Business  
Advocacy Committee



**ROY BOTELLO**  
Elderly Affairs, Joint City/  
County, Parks & Recreation  
Board



Enedina C. Vasquez is sworn in and congratulated by Councilwoman Radle as a member of the Library Board of Trustees at a City Council Meeting in March.

Currently, there are several boards and commissions vacancies. If you would like to serve, please ask for an application by calling 207-7043: **Animal Care Services Advisory Board, Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee, Board of Appeals, City of San Antonio Texas Education Facilities Corporation, Clean Up City Commission, Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, Mechanical Board of Appeals, San Antonio Commission on Literacy, South Texas Business Fund, Tax Phase-In Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Board.**



## Mayor's Hunger and Homelessness Task Force



John Flowers, with Travis Park United Methodist Church, addresses homelessness to members of the media.

Concerned that a proposed city ordinance may criminalize homelessness, the Mayor's Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness held a press conference under the Commerce St. bridge near the SAMM Shelter on May 5. Representatives from various local agencies that deal with homelessness issues, along with Council Members Patti Radle and Julian Castro, spoke to the community about better alternatives to ordinances that are inhuman, ineffective and inappropriate. Putting homeless people in jail does not solve their homelessness; when they leave jail most will still have to live on the streets.

The Task Force continues to meet monthly for the purpose of working toward a report that will make recommendations for possible City Council action and policies regarding hunger and homelessness. As always, your input on these issues is welcomed.



Councilwoman Radle speaks "under the bridge" with Councilman Julian Castro.

### Fans for Seniors

The City of San Antonio again has joined forces with several local corporate and human service organizations to collect and distribute electric box fans to help elderly citizens who may suffer most from high summer temperatures.

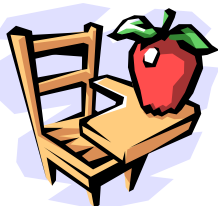
Fans will be distributed to eligible clients in San Antonio and Bexar County through Catholic Charities and the Society of St. Vincent DePaul. Clients must be at least 60 years old.

Citizens should call 211 or 227-4357 if they would like to request a fan or if they would like to know where they could donate fans. The Metropolitan Health District also will provide information on steps that can be taken to avoid heat stroke and heat exhaustion.



### BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR

Guadalupe Community Center



Saturday, August 7, 2004  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

1801 W. Durango Blvd.

For more information, contact John Santiago at 226-6178.



### DIAL-A-TRAILER

Dial-A-Trailer is a joint program of Keep San Antonio Beautiful and The City of San Antonio Environmental Services Department. Its purpose is to allow non-profit groups the opportunity to remove large items not collected during the normal weekly trash collection. Garbage trucks or brush trailers are used and will be at sites from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### ELIGIBILITY & PARAMETERS OF SERVICE

- Dial-A-Trailers are limited to non-profit neighborhood organizations within the City of San Antonio city limits.
- The City of San Antonio is limited to seven (7) locations per Saturday. In an effort to better serve more neighborhood associations, only one location per clean-up will be dispatched.
- City Equipment is to be used for brush and bulky items collected during neighborhood clean-ups only.

If you or your neighborhood is interested in reserving a Dial-A-Trailer, contact Keep San Antonio Beautiful Inc. at 207-6401. They will provide you with the proper paperwork to fill out to reserve a trailer.

The group requesting the Dial-A-Trailer is responsible for publicity in its neighborhood. Keep San Antonio Beautiful suggests you contact a minimum of 100 households. A sample flyer will be provided upon request.

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**Patti Radle**  
**Councilwoman, District 5**  
P.O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, Texas 78283

**OFFICE OF DISTRICT 5  
COUNCILWOMAN  
PATTI RADLE**

**Patti Radle**  
**Councilwoman, District 5**  
P.O. Box 839966, San Antonio, TX 78283  
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**E-mail: district5@sanantonio.gov**

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On May 21, 2004, many came out to have a good time and support the Senior Nutrition Centers at the Annual Jamaica, a fundraiser sponsored by the City of San Antonio Department of Community Initiatives, Elderly & Disabled Services Division, Comprehensive Nutrition Project. As you can see in these photos, all those who came out to Rosedale Park ate good food, spent time with family and friends, and danced their zapatos off.



# District 5 Newsletter